GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:44
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS DUE TO INDO PAK TENSION
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decline in foreign tourists visiting India due to prevailing Indo-Pak tension;

(b) if so, the number of foreign tourists visited India particularly Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise/ country-wise;

(c) the percentage reduction in foreign tourists and the foreign exchange earnings and revenue earned therefrom during the said period;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase foreign tourist traffic;

(e) whether the Government propose to organise tourism fairs to boost tourism in the country;

(f) if so, the States/Cities selected for the purpose;

(g) whether private participation has been encouraged in the fairs; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): The decline in foreign tourist arrivals to the country during the years 2001 and 2002 so far is due to the terrorist attack on World Trade Centre, war in Afghanistan and negative perception about the security in the South Asian Region.

(b): The number of foreign tourists from the top ten countries who visited India during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 is given at Annexure. The number of visits of foreign tourists to the State of Rajasthan for the years 1999,2000 and 2001 is 562685, 623100 and 608283 respectively.

(c): The number of foreign tourists and foreign exchange earned through tourism for the last three years are as follows:

Year	Foreign Tourist Arrivals	%Change	Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rs. In crores)	%Change
1999	2481928		12951	
2000	2649378	6.7	14238	9.9
2001	2537282	-4.2	14344	0.7

(d): Various steps taken to increase foreign tourist traffic to India includes the following:- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity; Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination; Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements; Creation of world class infrastructure; Developing sustained and effective marketing plans and programs; Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism; and Attention to civilisational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f), (g) and (h): The 4th International Travel and Tourism Mart (ITTM 2002) isscheduled to be held during September 2002 at New Delhi. ITTM 2002 will be a mega event drawing participation from various State Tourism Departments and Government bodies, Travel Agents, Tour Operators, Hotels & Resorts, Airlines, Adventure Tour Operators, etc. The PATA Conference held in April 2002 at New Delhi was an another boost to the tourism industry in the country and it successfully conveyed the messages to the entire world that India, as a destination, is safe, convenient, inexpensive and above all, unique for leisure as well as business traveler.

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.+44 ANSWERED ON 15.7.200
REGARDING DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS DUE TO INDO-PAK TENSION

Country of Nationality 1999	Tourist Arrivals	Country of Nationality 2000	Tourist Arrivals	Country of Nationality 2001	Tourist Arrivals
UK	345,085	UK	432,624	UK	405,472
USA	251,926	USA	348,292	USA	329,147
Sri Lanka	120,072	Sri Lanka	129,193	Sri Lanka	112,813
France	85,891	France	100,022	France	102,434
Germany	85,033	Japan	98,159	Canada	88,600
Canada	82,892	Canada	84,013	Japan	80,634
Japan	79,373	Germany	83,881	Germany	80,011
Australia	73,041	Malaysia	60,513	Malaysia	57,869
Singapore	53,310	Australia	53,995	Australia	52,691
Malaysia	52,613	Italy	50,419	Singapore	42,824